

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 17255 181643Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----074604 181649Z /44
O 181625Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1603

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 17255

EXDIS

DEPT FOR S/S TARNOFF

LONDON FOR AMBASSADORS ATHERTON AND ELTS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP EG (ATHERTON, ALFRED L., JR.)
SUBJECT: ATHERTON TRIP

REF: LONDON 11303

1. UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL AND IN LIGHT INFORMATION WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING FROM CAIRO MAJOR HOTELS OVER LAST THREE DAYS, THE ITINERARY PROPOSED IN PARA 3 OF REFTEL WHICH WOULD BRING AMBASSADOR ATHERTON AND PARTY TO CAIRO JULY 22 HAS MAJOR PROBLEM. WE HAVE JUST BEEN TALKING WITH HILTON RESERVATIONS MANAGER WHO SAYS HE IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY RPT ANY ROOMS FOR JULY 23. (WE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN THREE SINGLES FOR OTHER WASHINGTON VIPS FOR THIS DATE AND BEST WE COULD DO WAS TO BE PUT ON A WAITING LIST.) PROBLEM SEEMS TO BE AN UNANTICIPATED NUMBER OF AMERICAN TOUR GROUPS. RESERVATIONS PREVIOUSLY CONFIRMED FOR AMBASSADOR ATHERTON AND PARTY BEGINNING JULY 24 REMAIN VALID.

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2. IN VIEW ABOVE, WOULD AMBASSADOR ATHERTON CONSIDER DELAYING DEPARTURE FROM BRUSSELS TO ARRIVE CAIRO ON JULY 24? FURTHER CONSIDERATION IS THAT IF JULY 22 AND 23 WOULD TRULY BE DEAD DAYS, QUESTION ARISES WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO ENLIST GOOD OFFICES OF PRESIDENCY UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. WE HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT YET RAISED ISSUE OF SHIFTING RESERVATIONS TO JULY 28 AS

INDICATED IN PARA 2 OF REFTTEL UNTIL RETURNS ARE IN. PLEASE
ADVISE. SCARRITT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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